

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

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INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 IO-14

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O R 171520Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9839

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL OPORTO UNN

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA UNN

UNCLAS LISBON 2487

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PO, PU, YU

SUBJ: FORMIN SOARES ON RECENT PAIGC TALKS IN ALGIERS

AND KISSINGER MEETING IN OTTAWA

SUMMARY: SOARES ON RETURN FROM TALKS WITH PAIGC IN ALGIERS SAID HE IS STILL OPTIMISTIC REGARDING ACHIEVEMENT PEACE, ALTHOUGH NOT IN SHORT RUN, IN GUINEA. SAID CAPE VERDE ISSUE NOT MAIN STUMBLING BLOCK, HINTING THAT CONSTRAINTS OF ARMED FORCES PROGRAM GREATEST DIFFICULTY. NO DATE FOR NEW TALKS YET SET. ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, SOARES SAID HE WOULD POSSIBLY BRING UP AZORES IN TALKS WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER IN OTTAWA. END SUMMARY.

1. ON RETURNING FROM ALGIERS JUNE 15 FOREIGN MINISTER MARIO SAORES MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS TO JOURNALISTS AT LISBON AIRPORT ABOUT TALKS WITH PAIGC REPS AND UPCOMING MEETING WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER IN OTTAWA: SUSPENSION UNCLASSIFIED

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TALKS DUE TO DIFFICULTIES WHICH AROSE REQUIRING BOTH

PARTIES TO CONSULT WITH RESPECTIVE AUTHORITIES. SOARES CHARACTERIZED THESE DIFFICULTIES AS "PERFECTLY COMMON AND EVEN NATURAL" IN NEGOTIATIONS OF THIS TYPE, CITING PROBLEMS WHICH AROSE IN VIETNAM TALKS AS EXAMPLE. FOREIGN MINISTER NOTED HOWEVER THAT SAME GOOD ATMOSPHERE OF CORDIALITY AND SUMPATHY PREVAILED IN ALGIERS TALKS AS IN LONDON EARLIER. PORTUGUESE DELEGATION STILL ABSOLUTELY DETERMINED AND CONVINCED IT WILL ACHIEVE PEACE, ALTHOUGH PERHAPS NOT AS SOON AS IT WOULD LIKE. HE NOTED THAT ARMED FORCES PROGRAM BY WHICH HE IS GUIDED IN TALKS WITH PAIGC DRAWS CERTAIN LIMITS TO WHICH HE IS FAITHFUL AND BEYOND WHICH HE CANNOT GO IN NEGOTIATIONS. (THIS, HE HINTED IS CRUX OF PROBLEMS WITH PAIGC.) DATE OF RECOMMENCING FUTURE ROUND OF TALKS HAS NOT BEEN DECIDED YET, SAID SOARES. PORTUGUESE WILLING TO TALK WITH ANYONE ANYWHERE AND SITE FUTURE TALKS NOT IMPORTANT.

2. SOARES REFUSED TO GIVE DETAILS OF NATURE OF PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE ARISEN IN ORDER NOT TO PREJUDICE PROGRESS MADE SO FAR. HE DID HOWEVER REVEAL THAT QUESTION OF CAPE VERDE IS "NOT A SERIOUS POINT FOR US" NOR ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT AMONG THE PROBLEMS WHICH EXIST.

3. JOURNALISTS ASKED SOARES WHETHER THE INFORMAL VOLUNTARY CEASEFIRE WHICH PREVAILED DURING THE PAIGC TALKS WOULD CONTINUE. HE REPLIED THAT WHILE HE HAS NO GUARANTEE OF THIS, AND WOULD RECEIVE WORD IN ANY CASE VIA CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION RECENTLY SET UP WITH PAIGC, HE DOES NOT EXPECT AN END TO DE FACTO CEASEFIRE IN GUINEA.

4. SOARES ALSO WAS ASKED WHETHER HE WOULD BRING UP QUESTION OF US BASE IN AZORES DURING MEETING WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER IN OTTAWA. FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THERE WAS NO FIXED AGENDA, ALTHOUGH HE AND SECRETARY KISSINGER WOULD MAKE A "TOUR D'HORIZON" OF MUTUAL PROBLEMS, AND AZORES WOULD "POSSIBLY BE ON OF THE TOPCS DISCUSSED."

5. WOULD HE BE VISITING YUGOSLAVIA SOON? SOARES ANSWERED INDIRECTLY BY SAYING HIS CALENDAR IS COMPLETELY FULL AND THAT AT MOMENT HIS GREATEST DESIRE WOULD BE TO REMAIN UNCLASSIFIED

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IN LISBON. AFTER OVER FOUR YEARS IN EXILE AND CONSTANT TRAVEL DURING LAST MONTH HE PREFERS NOT TO LEAVE LISBON FOR TIME BEING. SCOTT

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